A Visit to the Zoo

A Reading A–Z Level I Leveled Book
Word Count: 328

Written by Joe Slade

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Correlation

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Fran and Danni are sisters. Fran is nine years old, and Danni is seven. They are visiting the zoo with their aunt.

The first animal they see is a beautiful lion. The lion is happy. She is not in a cage. She has a huge home at the zoo.
A colorful box is near each animal.
When Danni turns a key, she hears a voice.
The voice says:
“The male lion has a large mane.
The female lion is called a lioness.
The lioness doesn’t have a mane.”

Next, they visit the elephants.
There are two kinds of elephants.
One is the African elephant.
The other is the Indian elephant.
The Indian elephant is giving itself a dust shower.
“Look at the rhinoceroses and their pointed horns,” says Danni.
“And look at their thick, wrinkly skin.”
The girls are surprised to find a school in the zoo. “Are there teachers in the zoo school?” asks Fran. They go into the school to find out.

There are volunteers inside the school. They teach children about the animals. This boy is learning about ferrets.
After leaving the school, the girls visit the mandrill baboon. He has colorful cheeks. Danni says, “The baboon is my favorite animal.”

Danni finds a water fountain. “Which is your favorite animal?” asks Danni.

“You’ll have to guess,” says Fran.
“I think your favorite is the giraffe,” says Danni.

“I like giraffes,” says Fran. “But they’re not my favorite.”

“The zebra looks like he’s wearing pajamas,” says Danni. “Zebras must be your favorite.”

“No they aren’t,” says Fran.

“I give up,” says Danni. “Please tell me which is your favorite.”
“The tortoise is my favorite,” says Fran.
“Tortoises are cute. They carry their houses on their backs.”

The sisters are tired and thirsty. They enjoy drinks and treats. They had fun on their visit to the zoo. They had fun learning about the animals.